

REMARKS

The present amendment is submitted in response to the Office Action mailed on August 18, 2008. The claims have been amended in a manner to more clearly distinguish the present invention over the art cited in the Office Action. Reconsideration of the claims and allowance of the present application is respectfully requested in view of the remarks set forth hereinbelow.

Allowance of the present application is respectfully in view of the remarks set forth hereinbelow.

Claim 1 has been amended to clarify the movement of the tools, in that the cleaning tools are being arranged to follow the inside of the abdominal and to move in opposite directions from each other, after introduction in the abdominal cavity of the fish.

U.S. Patent No. 5,980,376 to Grosseholz relates to several cleaning tools arranged to move vertically in and out of the abdominal cavity of the fish. It can be argued that, according to Grosseholz, in case the first cleaning tool is being inserted into the abdominal cavity, and the second cleaning is moving out of the abdominal cavity, that there might be a situation where the cleaning tools are being arranged to move in opposite directions in respect to each other, as defined in original claim 1.

However, in the enclosed amended claim 1, it is clear that the tools are moving in opposite "horizontal" directions in the abdominal cavity of the fish, and away from each other. It would not be possible to fine clean fish, as stated in the application, by only moving the tools in and out of the abdominal cavity of the fish, as in the Grosseholz '376 patent.

Further, it is clear that in the present invention, the movements of the tools is carried out after both tools have been introduced into the abdominal of the fish, and the only possible

direction of movement is thus along the abdominal cavity of the fish. This is stated in the present application on page 3, lines 18-19.

Further in column 7, line 36-65, of Grossesholz, it is stated that the cleaning tools are inserted in the abdominal cavity after a device has opened the abdomen, and the tools are introduced behind the anus of the fish, and thereafter moved forward in the abdominal cavity of the fish, to the head of the fish. The cleaning tools are further moved forward successively, and the first cleaning tool is moved out of the abdomen before the second cleaning tool is moved forward.

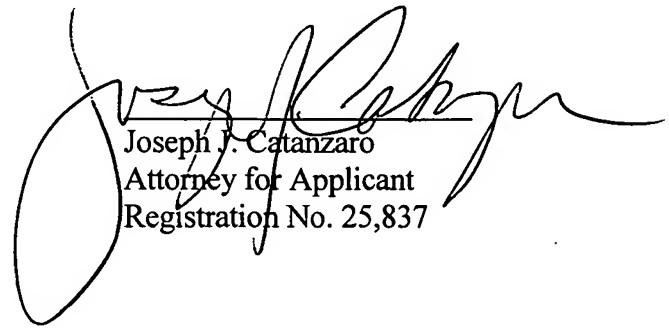
The disclosure of Grossesholz is contrary to the present invention. For example, in the present application, it is, stated, interalia, on page 6, line 10-14, that the tools are lowered into the middle of the abdominal cavity of the fish, and then moved towards the head and tail, i.e. in opposite directions from each other. Accordingly, the claimed invention is thus not dependent of the tools being introduced in the fish at any fixed point. In Grossesholz the tools must be introduced behind the anus of the fish, and then moved forwards.

Regarding the centering plates, these plates are intended to center and steady the fish, and are as such not essential for the invention. Even though the plates are advantageous, the process is not reliant on perfect centering of the fish, as stated in the present application on page 6, line 14-19.

Claims 10, 11 and 12 are cancelled herein without prejudice, and replaced by new claim

13. With regard to the objections of claims 5-8, attention is directed to the Preliminary
Amendment filed July 12, 2006, in which the multiple dependencies were corrected.

Respectfully submitted,



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